MINUTES TOWN OF GROTON HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION FEBRUARY 18, 2014 - 7:00 P.M. GROTON TOWN HALL ANNEX - COMMUNITY ROOM 2

Members Present: Moriarty, Brady, Somers

Alternates Present: Levenson, Brewer Absent: Everett, Kimenker Staff: Quinn, Galetta

Chairperson Moriarty called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and sat Brewer for Kimenker and Levenson for Everett.

MOTION: To waive the reading of the hearing procedure.

Motion made by Somers, seconded by Brady, so voted unanimously.

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS

HDC 14-02 – 9 Water Street; Mystic Art Association, Inc., owner; Fedus Engineering, LLC, applicant; Parking area. PIN #261918308314 001 – Continued

Gregg Fedus of Fedus Engineering, LLC, presented to the Commission for Mystic Art Association, Inc. owner of 9 Water Street. The proposal is to take the existing parking lot and make it more efficient. The current spaces are inconsistent in size and the project calls for expanding some spaces, adding handicap spaces, expanding the parking lot islands and moving the statue of "Sassy" out towards the river. The end result will be approximately 30 additional spaces in the lot. The applicant noted that downtown Mystic has a perceived problem with parking and feels adding the 30 spaces will help to alleviate some of the issue. The existing lighting will be kept as is; however, it will need to be supplemented and the applicant will return to the Commission when lighting needs have been assessed. It was also noted that some of the islands are being taken out but others will be redesigned. They will try to keep the existing grade. Buffering will be added along the sidewalk with vegetation such as a hedgerow rather than a fence. New trees will be planted within all the islands. The paved area of the lot will be increased so storm water receptors will be added to compensate for the additional impervious surface. Drainage will also be added to help water treatment prior to flowing into the Mystic River. The entrance will be fixed to make it wider for easier negotiation. They are trying to meet Town of Groton standards.

The following exhibits were presented:

- Narrative
- Site plan
- Photographs

Chairperson Moriarty asked for comments in favor or against and there were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:10 p.m.

The public hearing portion of the meeting was closed at 7:11 p.m.

II. DISCUSSION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

HDC 14-02 – 9 Water Street

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MOTION: To grant a Certificate of Appropriateness as submitted.

Motion made by Moriarty seconded by Levenson, so voted unanimously. Issued Certificate of Appropriateness #1921

III. PRE-APPLICATION HEARINGS

Lou Allyn, appeared before the Commission to discuss 74 High Street, known as Portersville Academy, and owned by Mystic River Historical Society. The building has rotting moulding which needs to be replaced. Additionally, they want to keep water off the trim in the future. They are proposing to replace the trim with the same type of wood, probably pine, and use Azek cladding the trim. The repair will be done on southside face of the building only.

IV. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS - None

V. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF February 4, 2014

MOTION: To approve the minutes of February 4, 2014, as amended.

Motion made by Brady, seconded by Brewer, so voted unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers

This item of business will be continued to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

VII. NEW BUSINESS - None

Staff noted the Michael J. Murphy, Director of OPDS has announced his retirement from the Town of Groton as of March 21, 2014.

Staff discussed the statue of Jim Kelly that will be located in the parklet next to Mystic Pizza. The actual location is 0 West Main Street which is owned by the Town of Groton. HDC guidelines give the Commission jurisdiction over statuary for one and two family dwellings. Staff assumes it will be a regulated activity, therefore, the Commission will need to approve the location of the statue and any signs that will be located on the site.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:29, made by Moriarty, seconded by Brady, so voted unanimously.

Historic District Commission

Prepared by Lynda Galetta, Office Assistant II